USPTO PDF Fillable Forms

EFS-Web is the United States Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO's) new easy-to-use, web-based patent application and document submission solution. EFS-Web utilizes standard web-based screens and prompts to enable you to submit a portable document format (PDF) document directly to the USPTO within minutes. A key component of EFS-Web is the use of PDF Form-Fillable documents, which are interactive forms with various field types and formatting options that auto-load field information directly in USPTO's systems. PDF form-fillable files are portable; they may be circulated to various people in your office for completion prior to being submitted to the USPTO.

When used in conjunction with EFS-Web, PDF Form-Fillable documents can help the intellectual property community ease the filing and submission process and accelerate the processing of patent applications and documents in USPTO's technology infrastructure for users.

PDF FORM-FILLABLE BENEFITS

Form-Fillable PDF's allow USPTO to extract form data directly into the main database used to process forms, Patent Application Locating and Monitoring (PALM), which feeds directly to Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR)

- By extracting data directly out of Form-Fillable PDF's, EFS-Web users can minimize rework and improve data accuracy for all types of filings
- Improved data accuracy reduces the need to file additional papers, such as "Correction of Filing" forms

Form-Fillable PDF's require no PDF creation software; only the latest free version of Acrobat Reader is needed to use the forms.

IMPORTANT PDF FORM-FILLABLE FEATURES

Required Acrobat Reader Version
USPTO Form-Fillable PDFs require only Adobe Reader 7.0.5 and above. Adobe Reader is a free software program available from Adobe.

Availability of USPTO Form-Fillable PDFs
USPTO has created a library of key static and limited function Form-Fillable PDFs that are available to all visitors to the USPTO website where other current USPTO forms are found.

USPTO PDF Fillable Forms

Core Functionality
Form-Fillable PDF's from USPTO provide the following functionality:
- Ability to print forms with data entered by the user
- Ability to save the form electronically with data embedded
- Add Portability of the form so different users can add or verify data before submission
- Ability to import data in XML format from document management systems and other databases
- Ability to export data in XML format to document management systems and other databases

Form-Fillable PDFs Available
USPTO currently has two Form-Fillable PDFs available that will provide auto-loading of data directly into USPTO databases:
- Application Data Sheet, which is submitted in either provisional or non-provisional applications, and which contains bibliographic data arranged in a format specified by USPTO.
- Information Disclosure Statement, which provides a means of listing all U.S. patents and U.S. publications, foreign patent documents and non-patent literature (NPL), submitted for consideration by USPTO in a non-provisional patent application.

Other Important Information
There are many other PDF forms on the USPTO web site but these do not save data. These legacy PDF forms can be filled out and submitted to USPTO using EFS-Web; however, the field information will not be automatically loaded onto USPTO systems.

If users create their own Form-Fillable PDFs, or modify USPTO Form-Fillable PDFs, the data will be accepted, however data in individual fields will not auto-load into USPTO systems.

Support
Technical support is available through USPTO's Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 from 6 a.m. to 12 Midnight Eastern Time, Monday – Friday.

Training
Training and EFS-Web QuickStart Guides are provided on the USPTO EFS-Web page. Self-paced Computer Based Training is available 24 x 7 in various file formats, including Windows Media, Real Media, PowerPoint and PDF files.

Contact Us Today
USPTO is committed to assisting the intellectual property community in moving towards electronic submission of all patent applications and documents. For more information on EFS-Web, visit our website at www.USPTO.gov.